

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 101.0084-00000

Customer No. 22882

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Gary K. Michelson, M.D.

Serial No.: 09/457,228

Filed: December 8, 1999

For: SPINAL IMPLANT SURFACE  
CONFIGURATION

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: B. Snow

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

In reply to the Office Action dated January 9, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please rewrite the claims (with changes as shown in the attachment) to read as follows:

57. (Twice amended) An interbody spinal implant for insertion between adjacent vertebral bodies of a human spine, said implant comprising:

a leading end for introduction of said spinal implant into the spine, an opposite trailing end, spaced apart sides therebetween, and a longitudinal axis passing through said leading and trailing ends;

opposite upper and lower surfaces between said leading and trailing ends and said spaced apart sides, said upper surface adapted for placement in engagement with

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